

Message Text

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 8626 ACTION SECSTATE 14 NOV

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: GATT ETRD

SUBJ: GATT COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

REF: A) STATE 266671; B) STATE 267065; C) STATE 266159;

D) STATE 267066; E) STATE 266100; F) STATE 266854

SUMMARY: CTD MET NOV 12-14. LDCS STRESSED
INADEQUACY OF PART IV OF GATT WHILE DCS STRESSED NEED
TO CONSIDER GATT REFORM WITHIN TNC. GATT
SECRETARIAT ASSISTANCE TO LDCS IN MTN PRAISED.
PROTOCOL OF TRADE AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRAISED
WITH ONLY US DELEGATION EXPRESSING SKEPTICISM.

1. CTD MET NOV 12-14 WIT KEY SUBJECT BEING DC
IMPLEMENTATION OF GATT PART IV AND POSSIBILITIES FOR
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AMENDING PART IV AND OTHER PARTS OF GATT RELATING TO

LDCS. NUMEROUS DCS INCLUDING US INDICATED STEPS THEY HAD TAKEN SINCE LAST CTD MEETING. US INDICATED WE CONSIDERED WE HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN MEETING PART IV OBJECTIVES DESPITE UNFAVORABLE ECONOMIC SITUATION. IN PARTICULAR CITED OUR CONTINUING ATTACHMENT TO OPENING TRADING SYSTEM, PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING GSP FOR JAN 1 IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENTS IN COMMODITY POLICY ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARY AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. ON PREFERENCES, WE NOTED PRESIDENTIAL INTENTION DESIGNATE ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES LISTED REFTEL (F) AND THAT CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL BENEFICIARIES CONTINUING. WE ALSO DESCRIBED PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINATION OF PRODUCT COVERAGE AND EXPRESSED EXPECTATION THAT COVERAGE WOULD BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY. US STATEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT WARMLY RECEIVED EXCEPT BY EQUADOR AND NIGERIA, WHICH CRITICIZED DISCRIMINATORY (OPEC) ELEMENTS. EQUADOR ALSO CRITICIZED EC FOR LOME CONVENTION DISCRIMINATION.

2. GENERAL LDC POSITION WAS THAT WHILE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES RECORD NOT ALL BLACK, THERE HAD BEEN MORE NEW RESTRICTIONS INTRODUCED THAN LIBERALIZATION AND THAT PART IV COMMITMENTS NOT BEING MET-- PARTICULARLY STANDSTILL. THEY URGED THAT PART IV AND OTHER PARTS OF GATT RELATING TO LDCS NEEDED IMPROVEMENT AND THAT CTD SHOULD PLAY A ROLE THEREIN. DCS POINTED TO TOKYO DECLARATION LANGUAGE CONCERNING EVENTUAL EXAMINATION OF MODIFICATIONS OF TRADING SYSTEM IN MTN AND STATED CTD SHOULD NOT DUPLICATE. AS COMPROMISE, IT WAS AGREED THAT GATT SECRETARIAT SHOULD PREPARE FOR NEXT MEETING OF CTD A BACKGROUND NOTE ON EXPERIENCE OF CPS ON PART IV AS WELL AS A SUMMARY OF SUGGESTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE IN CTD AND OTHER GATT BODIES WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS. THIS NOTE WILL BE CONSIDERED AT NEXT CTD MEETING IN ABOUT SIX MONTHS.

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3. ON MTN, LDC CRITICIZED SLOW PACE (SOME USING TERM "PARALYSIS") BUT NEVERTHELESS, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP DECISIONS ON MARCH 1 DATE FOR OFFERS BY DCS.

4. ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR LDCS IN MTN, MANY LDCS EXPRESSED WARM PRAISE FOR GATT PROGRAM. US AND ARGENTINA STRESSED NEED FOR CLOSE COLLABORATION

BETWEEN GATT AND UNCTAD TA PROGRAMS AS ALONG LINES REFTEL (C)
AND THIS POINT CLEARLY REFLECTED IN RECORD.

5. CONCERNING ITEM ON EXPANSION OF TRADE AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SEVERAL LDCS EXPRESSED VIEW
THEIR ARRANGEMENT MAKING POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO
EXPANSION OF TRADE AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
EC MADE OPENING STATEMENT SUPPORTING PROTOCOL AND
EXPRESSING HOPES THAT MORE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
WOULD PARTICIPATE. GREECE AND INDIAN DELEGATIONS SPOKE IN
SUPPORT. USDEL EXPRESSED US SKEPTICISM OF VALUE OF PROTOCOL AND
DOUBTS IT WOULD RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT
TRADE IMPROVEMENT (ALONG LINES REFTEL (F) ADDING
THAT US COULD SUPPORT NON-PREFERENTIAL MEASURES
TO IMPROVE INTRA-LDC TRADE. GHANA AND YUGOSLAVIA
INTERVENED TO NOTE THAT STATEMENT OF SOME COUNTRIES
(READ USDEL) INDICATED NEED FOR REVIEW OF PART IV
OF GATT WITH YUGOSLAV DELEGATION SAYING THAT THIS
WAS GOOD EXAMPLE OF TYPE OF AMENDMENT YUGOSLAVIA
WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN REVISED PART IV. DALE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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